

Timeline

TVA History by Year

(The yellow highlighted list of events below is not attributed to specific months.)

President Roosevelt signs the TVA Act (Public 17, 73 rd Cong., 48 Stat 58)	05	18	1933
First meeting of the TVA Board, whose members were Arthur E. Morgan, Harcourt A. Morgan, and David E. Lilienthal	06	16	1933
TVA Board adopts its initial Power Policy	08	25	1933
Construction begins on Norris Dam	10	01	1933
First Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp assigned to Tennessee Valley to concentrate on erosion control and tree planting	10	17	1933
Construction begins on Wheeler Dam	11	21	1933
Power service begins to city of Tupelo, Mississippi, under first TVA wholesale power contract	02	07	1934
Amory Water & Electric begins service in north Mississippi	09	02	1934
Operation of electric phosphorus furnace, used to make fertilizers, begins at Muscle Shoals	11	07	1934
TVA nurseries begin distributing tree seedlings for reforestation and erosion control	11	15	1934
President Roosevelt visits Norris Dam	11	16	1934
Test-demonstration work begins in Valley States using TVA concentrated phosphate	03		1935
Construction of Pickwick Landing Dam started	03	08	1935
Construction begins on Guntersville Dam	12	04	1935
Construction of Chickamauga Dam begins	01	13	1936
Construction begins on Hiwassee Dam	07	15	1936
Norris Dam operational	07	28	1936
Wheeler Dam operational	11	9	1936
Pickwick Landing Dam operational	06	29	1938
Construction of Kentucky Dam begins	07	01	1938
Construction of Watts Bar Dam begins	07	01	1939
Chickamauga Dam operational	03	04	1940

Hiwassee Dam operational	05	21	1940
Construction of Fort Loudoun Dam begins	07	08	1940
Construction begins on Cherokee Dam	08	01	1940
TVA signs general labor agreement with Tennessee Valley Trades and Labor Council, composed of 15 trade unions affiliated with the AFL	08	06	1940
Construction begins on Watts Bar Steam Plant	08	08	1940
President Roosevelt dedicates Chickamauga Dam	09	02	1940
In response to wartime needs, emergency power conservation program begins	07	01	1941
Construction of Appalachia, Chatuge, Nottely, and Ocoee No. 3 dams begins	07	17	1941
Construction begins on Fontana Dam	01	01	1942
Construction of South Holston Dam begins	02	01	1942
Douglas Dam construction begins for national defense purposes	02	02	1942
Watts Bar Dam operational	02	11	1942
Construction of Watauga Dam begins	02	16	1942
Lend-lease shipments of phosphates to Britain started	03	01	1942
Watts Bar Steam Plant operational	03	16	1942
Cherokee Dam operational	04	16	1942
Douglas Dam operational after just 12 months, 17 days of construction	03	21	1943
Ocoee No. 3 Dam operational	04	30	1943
Large-scale production of ammonium nitrate for fertilizer use begins at Muscle Shoals	05	20	1943
Appalachia Dam operational	09	22	1943
Fort Loudoun Dam operational	11	09	1943
Kentucky Dam operational	09	14	1944
Fontana Dam operational	01	20	1945
Kentucky Lake impounded, completing the 650-mile-long navigation channel from Knoxville, Tennessee, to Paducah, Kentucky, and linking the Tennessee Valley with the 20-state inland waterway system	04	08	1945
President Truman dedicates Kentucky Dam	10	10	1945

Federal government sells Town of Norris, Tennessee, to private owners for \$2,107,500	06	15	1948
Largest TVA construction blast at the South Holston Dam site (1,300,000 pounds of explosive used to loosen an estimated 1,700,000 cubic yards of stone)	02	05	1949
Construction of Johnsonville Steam Plant begins	05	12	1949
One-millionth consumer added to TVA power system	07	28	1949
Watauga Dam operational	08	30	1949
Celebration in Murray, Kentucky, marking jointly the planting of the two-millionth tree in Calloway County and the 200-millionth tree in the Tennessee Valley	12	05	1949
Construction of Widows Creek Steam Plant started	03	28	1950
Construction of Boone Dam begins	08	29	1950
Construction of Shawnee Steam Plant begins	01	20	1951
South Holston Dam operational	02	13	1951
Construction of Kingston Steam Plant begins	04	30	1951
Construction of Fort Patrick Henry Dam begins	05	14	1951
TVA and National Fertilizer Association sign Memorandum of Understanding for exchange of technical information	06	13	1951
Construction of Colbert Steam Plant begins	10	15	1951
Johnsonville Steam Plant operational	10	27	1951
Widows Creek Steam Plant operational	07	01	1952
Construction begins on John Sevier Steam Plant	10	14	1952
TVA transfers to State of Tennessee 226 small waterfront public access areas on nine reservoirs in Tennessee, permanently assuring public access to and from federal reservoirs.	02	06	1953
Boone Dam operational	03	16	1953
Shawnee Steam Plant operational	04	09	1953
Construction begins on Gallatin Steam Plant	05	11	1953
Fort Patrick Henry Dam operational	12	05	1953
Kingston Steam Plant becomes operational as the world's largest coal-burning power plant at the time	02	08	1954
Chatuge Dam operational	12	09	1954

Colbert Steam Plant operational	01	18	1955
TVA records the 60-millionth visit to its dams and steam plants since operations began in 1933	03	31	1955
John Sevier Steam Plant operational	07	12	1955
Nottely Dam operational	01	10	1956
Construction begins on Allen Steam Plant	08	06	1956
Gallatin Steam Plant operational	11	08	1956
TVA 25 th Anniversary open house at dams and steam plants	05	18	1958
Allen Steam Plant operational	05	22	1959
President Eisenhower signs into law an amendment to the TVA Act making TVA's power system self-financing	08	06	1959
Construction begins on Paradise Steam Plant	11	02	1959
TVA issues first power bonds	11	15	1960
Construction begins on Bull Run Steam Plant	04	02	1962
President Kennedy speaks at TVA 30 th Anniversary Ceremony in Muscle Shoals	05	18	1963
Paradise Steam Plant operational	05	19	1963
TVA announces that strip mine land reclamation requirements will be included in future coal-purchase contracts	07	27	1965
TVA Board decides to build first TVA nuclear power plant at Browns Ferry in Alabama	06	17	1966
Construction begins on Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant	09	12	1966
Bull Run Steam Plant operational	06	12	1967
First general increase in TVA power rates	08	31	1967
Construction begins on Cumberland Steam Plant	03	04	1968
Construction begins on Sequoyah Nuclear Plant	04	01	1969
Construction begins on Watts Bar Nuclear Plant	12	26	1972
Cumberland Steam Plant operational	03	01	1973
The largest regulated flood in the Chattanooga area – 37 feet -- since the completion of the TVA reservoir system.	03	18	1973
Major power conservation program begins in response to national energy shortage	07		1973

Browns Ferry Unit 1, TVA's first nuclear power unit, operational	08	01	1974
Bicentennial Volunteers, Inc. (BVI), chartered	11	22	1975
President Jimmy Carter speaks to TVA employees at Knoxville Civic Coliseum	05	22	1978
Snail darters successfully transplanted from Tellico Dam Area	03		1980
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant operational	07	01	1981
The "Valley Adventure" barges begin six-month tour of the Tennessee Valley region as part of TVA's 50 th Anniversary celebration	04	01	1983
U.S. Post Office issues stamp commemorating TVA's 50 th Anniversary	05	18	1983
TVA Board creates the Office of the Inspector General	10		1985
TVA establishes Live Well Centers to promote employee health and fitness			1990
Sequoyah Nuclear Plant ranks 2nd in the nation and 8th in the world in overall annual power generation			1990
Director John B. Waters completes a "Voyage for the Valley", a 650-mile inspection of the Tennessee River	06	13	1990
Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Plant Unit 2 achieves full-power operation	05	24	1991
Wetlands Research and Development Facility opens in Muscle Shoals, Alabama, to develop strategies for reducing water pollution and other environmental dangers	07	10	1992
Nine economic development centers open across the Tennessee Valley			1995
TVA sells power bonds on the global market for the first time	06		1995
TVA Police commissions 125 former Public Safety Officers as federal police officers	09	12	1995
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant in Tennessee receives full-power operating license	02	07	1996
Watts Bar Unit 1 reaches 100 percent power for first time	05	09	1996
Olympic Games Whitewater Slalom events are held on the Ocoee River	07		1996
Federal appropriations for TVA's non-power programs end	09	30	1999
TVA Board approved returning Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Unit 1 to service	05	16	2002
Second-highest flood stage at Chattanooga in TVA's history; TVA averts more than \$400 million in estimated damage in the Chattanooga area alone.	05	07	2003
Reservoir Operations Study (ROS) completed	05		2004

Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005 signed into law, changing the structure of the TVA Board and creating the position of Chief Executive Officer	12	08	2004
First of nine part-time TVA Board members sworn into office	03	31	2006
Tom Kilgore named TVA President and first Chief Executive Officer	10	13	2006
TVA restarts Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Unit 1, the nation's first nuclear unit to begin commercial operation in the 21 st century.	05	22	2007
President George W. Bush visits Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant to congratulate TVA on bringing the first nuclear unit on-line in the 21 st century	06	21	2007
TVA meets all-time record power demand of 33,499 megawatts	08	16	2007
TVA announces a record \$447 million in tax equivalent payments to state and local governments	11	29	2007
TVA celebrates its 75 th anniversary	05	18	2008